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Violin Wood Found in Dixie National Forest

"My personal interest is tone woods as related to the violin family of musical instruments," says Dr. Spyros Vennos. "In connection with this I sought within the continental United States a source of Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*) which is a species I believe to be equal if not superior to the European *Picea excelsa*."

This interest led Dr. Vennos to question Mike Hanson, Forest Management Specialist in the Regional Office. Where could he buy and harvest in the month of January about 45 Engelmann spruce trees that were growing at 9,000 feet elevation or higher at a latitude near 39 degrees? These must be large, mature trees with

few limbs, straight grain, and narrow growth rings evenly spaced.

"Try Dixie National Forest in southern Utah," Hanson advised, eventually.

That was early in January 1983. Three months later an 18-wheeler rolled out of Cedar City, Utah, with enough Engelmann spruce to make music heard 'round the world.

Those three months were hummers. Mike Hanson referred Dr. Vennos to Lew Jump, Forest Silviculturist for the Dixie NF. Lew Jump called Vern Roundy, Silviculturist at Cedar City Ranger District, and asked for help in locating the trees. District Ranger Rollo Brunson and Forestry Technician Paul Fullmer joined the search. Dr. Vennos arrived from Maryland.

The searchers found what they sought after several snowmobile trips over 6 feet of snow. The trees were on top of Cedar Mountain near Cedar Breaks National Monument, not far from state highway U-14. The altitude there is near 10,000 feet, the latitude close to 39 degrees.

The trees there, Dr. Vennos excitedly proclaimed, were exactly what he hoped to find. Forty-five or more were suitable—Engelmann spruce 14 to 50 inches in diameter that met his other exacting specifications.

Now, could they be qualified for a timber-sale harvest?

Clearance took a lot of approval, not only by the Forest Service but from Federal Aviation Administration and Utah Department of Transportation. The latter agencies had facilities near the harvest area. All of them studied and finally approved the harvest plan, which was designed to remove selected Engelmann spruce with little or no damage to the terrain or other trees.

Dr. Spyros Vennos in search of the perfect tree.



Cloyd Stratton, a Cedar City, Utah, logging contractor, was hired by Dr. Vennos to cut and haul the trees. The professor returned to his teaching duties in Maryland while Stratton and cat-skiner Kim Hansen sized up the job of logging at 10,000 feet in 6 to 10 feet of January snow. Cutting the trees in January, when most of the sap was down in the tree roots, was one of the requirements.

Silviculturist Vern Roundy and Forestry Technician Paul Fullmer huddled with the Forest's landscape architect to fine-tune a harvest plan that would leave no lasting visual damage. Most of the logs would be brought out of the woods with a rubber-tired skidder operating on plowed lands opened by Kim Hansen on a D-8 Cat with a dozer blade. Walt Allard and his Tucker Snowcat with 360 Chrysler engine would do some experimental skidding in an area where the D-8 dozer might cause unacceptable damage. Walt is with the Federal Aviation Administration.

Four more feet of snow fell before the loggers got to the site with their chain saws. The Strattons—Cloyd, Gary, and Neil—did the falling, limbing, and bucking. They also leaned into scoop shovels to clear an average 8 feet of snow from the base of each spruce they dropped. This cleared working room and escape routes for the fallers. Roundy and Fullmer worked closely with the Strattons to assure logging was done as planned.

A tree 4 feet in diameter doesn't fall softly, even in 10 feet of snow. But the crashing sound is gone. Breakage on impact is almost eliminated. Setting up choker cables for skidding limbed and bucked logs becomes cold, crawling, clawing work.

But the job went well. A total of 45 trees ranging from 16 to 50 inches DBH were harvested. The big logs were easily snaked to the road by the rubber-tired skidder, as expected. The surprise to both contract loggers and Forest workers was the ease with which the Tucker Snowcat sledged out the biggest logs in the cut. This was done without roading or plowing, leaving no trace other than a shallow groove in the packed snow.

"This Snowcat skidding worked so well we're thinking about it as a tool of the future," says Ranger Rollo Brunson. "It may let us do selective cutting in sensitive areas where we couldn't justify the damage done by dozed roads and conventional logging equipment."

The spruce logs trucked to Cedar City represented a total volume of 38,992 board feet. The lengths marked



Dr. Spyros Vennos (left) and Cloyd Stratton, logging contractor, find a log that meets the exact specifications for tone wood.

"The Snowcat skidding worked so well we're thinking about using it as a tool of the future."



by Vennos for shipment to Baltimore were only a small part of this. The rest will be milled for commercial lumber.

The violin wood arrived in Boston in April. Vennos says he will cut his logs to length with a chain saw and band saw and split them into segments with wedges. "It will

be done with great care—this splitting.” Vennos adds. “I will work with the natural lines of the wood. It will be somewhat like dividing the natural segments of an orange or grapefruit. This I will do myself. It is not a job for lumbermen.”

The raw edges of the split slabs are to be sealed with a slurry of fine sawdust and paraffin. Then Vennos will stack them in criss-cross fashion to form columns 6 to 8 feet tall. They will be stored in a drying shed with ventilating fans for about 10 years. And that, to Vennos, is a quick-dry process. He says European violin makers cure tone wood 20 years before they work it.

This Engelmann spruce will only make the “belly” of the violin. The back and sides are commonly made from maple. Finger boards may be rosewood, ebony or other hardwoods. But the belly is the tone wood of vital importance in a master violin. It has traditionally been made from a variety of Norway spruce not native to North America. If Dr. Vennos is right, his meticulously selected Engelmann spruce will build a violin to take its place as king of the orchestra.

“I will not ship this wood to Europe,” Vennos says. “If my tests prove it to be equal or superior to the European tone woods, we will make concert violins here. Cellos, too. Perhaps violas and bass instruments. All that family of stringed instruments.

“Perhaps we will make only a few—a few of the best in the world. I have no talent as a musician, but I can supply the finest tone wood.”

The Japanese currently make and ship to this country thousands of violins made of wood formed by steam and pressure, Vennos notes. “Those are for students,” he says, “not for an orchestra. The Japanese manufacturers would admit that. Perhaps they will one day be customers for North America spruce.”

Dr. Vennos teaches Economics and International Finance at Towson State University in Maryland. Among his college credits are a B.S. in mechanical engineering, M.S. degrees in both Applied Mathematics and Aeronautics, a Ph.D. in Science, and a M.B.A. from Wharton School of Finance.

Those are the academic accomplishments of a man who came to this country from Salonica, Greece, at age 25 with no knowledge of English, no formal education, and a \$20 grubstake.



The big logs were easily snaked to the road by the rubber-tired skidder. (Photos by Paul Fullmer)

“I wanted desperately to learn,” he explains.

Among other things, Dr. Spyros (“call me Sam”) Vennos has learned to do a masterful job of saying “Thanks.”

At the completion of the timber harvest in Dixie NF, Vennos drafted a letter to Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block with a complimentary copy to R. Max Peterson, Chief of the Forest Service. That letter thanks by name every Dixie NF employee on the project, not to mention George Roether and Mike Hanson of the Regional Office. Frank Stobbe and Walter Allard (manning the Federal Aviation site near the timber sale) also receive favorable mention.

One exception: “I acknowledge the assistance of the landscape architect,” Vennos writes. “Deeply embarrassed, I failed to record his name.”

It’s Molyneux. Max Molyneux. Take a bow, Max.

Len Miracle
Information Office

Regional Forester's Message

In our part of the country, the Spring of 1983 will be long remembered—not only for devastating floods and landslides, but for the spirit of the people who were threatened by these catastrophic events. This spirit was well demonstrated by Forest Service personnel who worked around the clock in some areas to ensure public safety and to keep damage at a minimum.

Although they received little recognition by the media, Forest construction and maintenance crews and other field personnel carried especially heavy burdens. They were called on at all hours of day or night to repair washed out roads and clear stream channels.

Some Forest Supervisors' headquarters were turned into nerve centers that kept a steady stream of information flowing to and from the field and Regional Office. People in these offices spent many long days and nights on the telephone, requesting services and coordinating the available assistance. A few Utah National Forests had their entire workforce assigned for many weeks to emergency related tasks.

Regional Office staffs gathered information and provided special services such as aerial photography and geological assessments. Responsibility for these activities rested with Cooperative Forestry, Fire and Planning; Watershed and Air Management; Engineering; Aviation and Fire Management; and Information Office. Support work that can be handled only by financial and budget specialists was done extremely well by staff personnel in Fiscal and Accounting Management and Planning and Budget. At the center of all the activity was the Regional Forester's Flood and Landslide Advisory Committee.

The losses could have been greater. For example, continual surveillance of landslides above populated areas provided information that helped local officials know when residents should be evacuated. As the result of our monitoring activities, at least two dams were saved because crews were able to reach them in time to clear spillways and avoid breaching.

I want to express my appreciation to everyone involved for quickly responding to the emergencies and providing excellent assistance to state and local governments. Your professional actions saved lives and property, not only within National Forests, but out-Forest as well. Because of your efforts, we can all take pride in the Forest Service role during recent disasters.



J. S. Tixier
Regional Forester

Arizona Museum Displays Forest Service Artifacts

Beginning June 19, the Southwest Region's collection of artifacts will be on display at the Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott, Arizona. Artifacts and photographs will show many aspects of life in the Forest Service in the old days.

"We think this display will be of interest to many Forest Service employees and to retired Forest Service people,"

said Regional Forester M. J. Hassell. "Also, Sharlot Hall Museum should prove to be a useful resource to researchers interested in forest history."

Anyone who may wish to contribute artifacts to the museum should contact the director, Dr. Kimsey. The address is 415 West Gurley, Prescott, Arizona 86301, telephone (602) 445-3122.

New Invention for Backcountry Campgrounds

It is not something most of us would want named after us, but three Targhee backcountry patrolpersons are so proud of their new creation that they named it after themselves: the Hangerwit toilet.

The trio, really named Jerry Hansen, Karen Jerger, and Mike Whitfield, decided that the Palisades backcountry needed better toilets. The old toilets were dark, smelly, dirty, heavy, and difficult to construct. What was needed was an airy toilet that still provided privacy in the crowded areas but was cleaner, lightweight, and easy to construct and move, and had plenty of ventilation. The three well seasoned backcountry patrolpersons bounced ideas off each other and eventually came up with the Hangerwit.

The new Hangerwit toilets have four hinged, movable walls on short stilts and no ceilings. They can be moved by two people. They are preconstructed in a carpenter's shop and packed in by horses or mules. The ventilation

problem is solved by the openness below and above the toilets.

Hansen says that several other forests and licensed outfitters have asked for more details about the toilet for their overused backcountry camping areas.

The trio installed the new style toilets last year. So far, the public seems pleased, Hansen said, "At least no one has complained."

The Hangerwit inventors are eager to improve their design and are looking for helpful comments from people who have used them. Any volunteers? Who knows—you might get part of your name added to the invention.

Ann Matejko
Public Affairs Specialist
Targhee NF

Foster Parent Program Tried for Bald Eagles

An osprey's lack of concern about a wooden egg in the nest may one day bring more bald eagles to northern Idaho, says Jack McNeel, Department of Fish and Game.

Phase one of the nongame management program—substituting the bogus egg for that of an osprey—seems to have worked perfectly. It's the start of a foster parent plan using ospreys to hatch and care for eaglets, McNeel explained. "The idea is to try to establish a nesting population of bald eagles in this region, which seems to have suitable habitat for our national bird without affecting ospreys."

The study was initiated this spring to determine if ospreys could recognize their own eggs, or if they would accept one the size of an eagle egg. Project leader was Elwood Bizeau, with the University of Idaho cooperative wildlife research unit.

Blocks of wood were cut to size, weighted, and painted white to match an eagle egg. Researchers then removed one or more osprey eggs from each nest and replaced

them with the wooden models.

Adult ospreys returned almost immediately after the researchers left and they resumed incubation of their brown mottled eggs and the large white egg. "We didn't want to put a real eagle egg under the osprey and have it kicked out of the nest," McNeel said.

He emphasized that osprey eggs were not damaged after they were taken from the nests. "All were held in incubators for the duration of the experiment and carefully tended until they were returned to their original nests."

Phase two will need permission from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service before the project can continue and following that, the department will need permission to collect some bald eagle eggs.

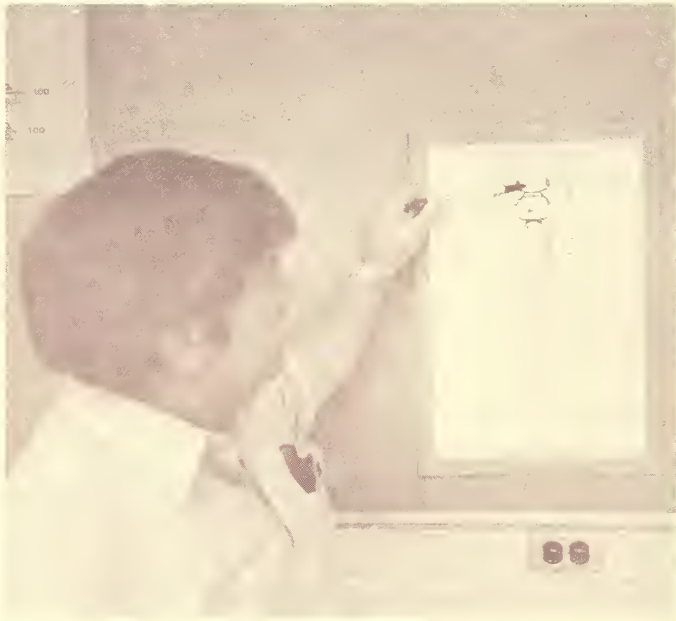
Alaska could be a likely source because it has good populations of bald eagles and birds are not classified as an endangered species as they are in 44 states, he pointed out.

Things That Only a Bug Can Tell

"The only good bug is a dead bug."

"Not so," says Dr. Fred Mangum, Intermountain Region Aquatic Ecologist, assigned to the Wildlife Management Staff. Forest specialists collect the "bugs" (specifically, macroinvertebrates) from streams with a special streambottom net and send them to the Intermountain Region's Aquatic Ecosystem Analysis Laboratory in Provo, Utah. The samples are processed to determine species, numbers, and biomass, and are used as an indicator of the relative health of a stream's aquatic environment.

Home of the world's smartest bugs.



Dr. Mangum is responsible for not only the Region's stream macroinvertebrate analysis program on all Intermountain Region Forests, but also assists the other nine Forest Service Regions. This service is also extended to the Bureau of Land Management in five western states, Bureau of Reclamation, and state agencies as cooperators.

The Intermountain Region's macroinvertebrate program has received the stamp of approval from the EPA and Department of the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) in addition to being used by many scientists nationally. The COE is using it in the eastern United States as one of two nationally recognized methodologies

for macroinvertebrate analysis.

In the field, samples are gathered above and below campgrounds, mining operations, and road projects, as well as other management activities. Samples are collected on a regular, seasonal basis to monitor macroinvertebrate life in streams. The samples are sent to the Aquatic Ecosystems Analysis Laboratory, where the composition of the macroinvertebrate community is determined by isolating and identifying the organisms present. Water chemistry can indicate if the water is polluted or clean, when sampled, but the interpretation of macroinvertebrate data tells a long-term story of what type of pollutants are present and their probable cause.

Dr. Mangum explains the workings of his friendly critters.



The Intermountain Region has developed a nationally recognized Biotic Condition Index (BCI) which grades or classifies streams between a score of 50 and 100, depending on how well they are doing environmentally. Different species of macroinvertebrates thrive in different environments. For instance, the presence of midge flies, a type of aquatic "worm," may indicate a degree of siltation in a stream. An overabundance of this species warns specialists of a more than normal quantity of siltation in the stream. Road building, grazing, logging, or mining operations might produce this situation. When organic pollutants enter the water, a black fly

population greatly increases. By monitoring the number of these macroinvertebrates, changes in the organic content in a stream can be noted. People and nature can cause fluctuations in the macroinvertebrate levels, when waste materials are deposited in or near the streams. When unfavorable situations are detected, Forest managers review the steps necessary to alleviate the problems.

Dr. Mangum has developed an interesting sideline associated with his work. Through his intimate relationship with "Pteronarcella," "Paraleptophlebia," and other species, he has come to know which bugs would be especially tasty to the large trout that inhabit Forest streams. His thoughts of what fly, or macroinvertebrate to cast upon the water is a sure-fired way to pull in a big one! You can try the same thing on your favorite fishing stream.



A look through the microscope can reveal the health of a stream.

Good Host Goes to Symphony Hall

Clare Mitchell, Forest Products Specialist in Cooperative Forestry, Fire and Planning, was recently invited to perform at Symphony Hall in Salt Lake City. He was not asked to perform musically, however, but to do something even more important. He was asked to test the moisture content of the Hall's oak paneling and to determine whether or not it contained the proper amount of moisture.

The request—not the ordinary everyday type—came from Salt Lake County, which has responsibility for maintaining the Salt Palace and Symphony Hall. Don Mayne, Engineer for the Hall, was concerned about protecting the oak paneling that not only provides architectural beauty but also affects the sound of music.

Clare took a moisture meter to the Hall and made humidity readings in the various zones. He sent the

readings to the Forest Products Lab at Madison, Wisconsin, where R. Sidney Boone, Wood Technologist, studied the data and reported back to Clare that everything looked fine. (Apparently, scientists at the Lab are often asked to make such studies.) Everyone involved with managing Symphony Hall was pleased to receive confirmation that the oak paneling was being cared for properly. Also, they appreciated the brochures about humidity and moisture that FPL sent.

Although the request for help at Symphony Hall was a little out of the ordinary for the Intermountain Region, it is a good example of the varied public service provided by State and Private Forestry working cooperatively with Research. It also exemplified the Good Host attitude of the versatile staff of CFFP. Too often these special public services go unnoticed.

Stories Wanted

In continuation of its ongoing History Project, the Foresters' Wives Club of Washington D.C., is issuing another nationwide appeal for stories of wives of Forest Service men whose service included years between 1905 (beginning of the USDA Forest Service) to 1950. The project is interested in stories which tell how wives helped their husbands in the field, living conditions as remembered, funny anecdotes, ordinary or extraordinary things which happened, reminiscences such as one

would tell to describe one's life to those outside the Service.

These stories are sought as a part of history, and no public funds are being expended in this History Project. There are no present plans to publish the material. Please send any stories to Mrs. Gordon D. Fox, 6215 Dahlonga Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816, before July 1, 1984.

THE WAY IT WAS

Famous Forest Service Firsts

(Continued from the last issue of IR)

(1939)—This was the year the Service gave birth to the famous Smokejumpers—the idea of parachuting men to combat forest fires. The first successful experiments were done in the Pacific Northwest, under the direction of David P. Godwin, October 5, in the Chelan National Forest, near Winthrop, Washington. Previously parachutists had been regarded as crack-pots, publicity-seekers, or just plain crazy. Two of the first successful jumps were made by Rufus Robinson, Kooskie, Idaho, and Earl Cooley, Hamilton, Montana, on July 12, 1940.

(1939)—The first maneuverable parachute was devised by Chester N. Derry of the Forest Service. Veteran smokejumper, Derry made some of the first experimental jumps for the Service. Due to the critical equipment situation at the time, Derry experimented until he hit upon a slotted parachute to give the jumper maneuverability and control over his direction. It is now called the “Derry parachute” in honor of its inventor, a pioneer in smokejumping.

(1944)—The first animated advertising symbol used by the Federal government was the now famous Smokey Bear, the official forest fire prevention symbol. In 1952, the Smokey Bear Act was passed by Congress to protect the symbol from abuse and for an orderly educational support program. Thus Smokey represents a double first—also the first bear to be protected by an Act of Congress.

(1957)—First to try to pull the teeth of the lightning storm—in a continuing long-range program of lightning research, begun in 1957. This is also a continuation of an earlier research drive, project Skyfire—all in an effort at weather modification to reduce the large percentage of forest fires set by lightning—33 percent of all forest fires, or about one-third.

(1964)—First to develop balloon and helicopter logging was the Forest Service, in conjunction with private industry. In the early 1960's, it was realized that too much woodland was inaccessible to regular logging. In 1964, the flying Scotsman Balloon Company joined forces with the Forest Service and pioneered a method of logging utilizing helium-filled dacron balloons. These experiments were begun in Oregon and Washington and

have been tested for years. There are still problems to be worked out, but much timber is being logged in this manner in the West today.

Helicopter logging comes along a little later. (in 1968). Jack Erickson of Erickson Lumber, his woods supervisor Jack Montgomery, and Richard Kearns of the Forest Service collaborated to pursue the practicality of helicopter logging. From their determination, the Forest Service set up project FALCON to explore the possibilities of this logging further. Due to the success of the experiments in the field, helicopter logging today is being practiced. Although neither balloon nor helicopter logging have been perfected, they are both effective and are being used more widely throughout the West to obtain formerly inaccessible timber.

(1971)—First Federal agency to send products to the moon. Stuart A. Roosa, a former Forest Service smokejumper, carried tree seeds to the moon and back on his Apollo 14 mission (January 31, 1971) to “honor earth's green world of trees.” These trees were planted in historic areas to celebrate our nation's Bi-centennial in 1976.

Seldom in history has a single man left so strong an imprint on an agency of government as did Gifford Pinchot on the Forest Service. And, as forestry in America passes its one hundredth anniversary—August 15, 1976—that innovative spirit that he left with it lives on in the U.S. Forest Service.

This information comes from an article written in 1973 by Clifford D. Owsley, Director of the Forest Service History Program (now retired). The article was published originally in the Southern Lumberman. Excerpts are being published each month in “The Way It Was” column.

Environmental Education Workshop

Camp Sawtooth, near the SNRA headquarters, will be the site of the “Natural Resource Issues for the Classroom” workshop, August 14-19. Last year 25 teachers learned how to get their students involved in investigating a variety of issues. For more information, contact Vern Fridley, Information Office, telephone (801) 625-5348. Deadline for registration is August 5.

Happy 75th Birthday

On July 1, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt was busy signing proclamations that created National Forests. Because of him, several birthday parties are being held around the country this year. The Bridger-Teton and Humboldt are two of the Intermountain Region's National Forests that are noting the special date with feature stories and festivities.

OPEN HOUSE IN JACKSON

The Bridger-Teton NF invited the public to an open house at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Jackson, Wyoming. Included in the festivities were tours of the old Blackrock Ranger Station and a special photographic exhibit highlighting 75 years of history.

When the Teton NF was created on July 1, 1908, by presidential proclamation, it included 1,991,200 acres. With the exception of some eliminations for homesteading and transfers to Grand Teton National Park and the Jackson Hole National Monument in the 1930's, the boundaries have remained essentially the same.

In 1973, the Teton NF was administratively combined with the Bridger NF. The combined Bridger-Teton NF consists of 3.4 million acres and is the largest National Forest outside of Alaska.

The first Forest Supervisor was Robert Miller. Other supervisors were A. C. McCain (1918-1936), J. W. West (1936-1942), F. C. Koziol (1942-1944), Wilford L. Hansen (1944-1945), Arthur Buckingham (1945-1957), H. "Rip" Van Winkle (1957-1963), Robert F. Safran (1964-1972), Charles T. Coston (1972-1975), and Reid Jackson (1975-Present).

Good Hosts are Humboldt NF Employees

A grateful citizen wrote the following letter that concerns an incident on June 5, a normal day off for Dave and Diana Myers and Brett Glover, Humboldt NF employees:

On June 5th at approximately 5:30 p.m. the "Fun Bus" I was on went in the ditch about 2 minutes away from your facilities at Mountain City.

John Witherspoon, the volunteer acting sheriff, David

HUMBOLDT CREATED FOR WATERSHED PROTECTION

The Humboldt NF was a consolidation of the Ruby Mountains and Independence Forest Reserves. Watershed protection was the principle objective of establishing the Forest.

At the turn of the century, nomadic herds of sheep were damaging the mountain watershed and consuming all available forage. This adversely affected the settlers in the valleys below by causing excessive spring runoff and extremely low flows in the summer. Irrigation was becoming all but impossible. In addition, local settlers found little forage left for their stock. Upwards of 100,000 sheep were estimated to be ranging on the Ruby Mountains during the summer of 1905. These nomadic bands followed the snow up the mountain slopes in the spring and stayed until they were snowed out in the fall.

Local sentiment was strongly in favor of creating Forest Reserves. Numerous petitions and letters were mailed requesting action. President Theodore Roosevelt, on November 5, 1906, signed the proclamation creating the Ruby Mountains and Independence Forest Reserves. Two years later they became the Humboldt National Forest.

The Humboldt NF presently consists of five Ranger Districts, with offices located at Mountain City, Wells, Ely, and Winnemucca, Nevada, and Buhl, Idaho. B. J. Graves, the Forest Supervisor, is located at Elko, Nevada.

and Diana Myers, and Brett Glover were most accommodating to our group. They took us to their restroom facilities, brought us sleeping bags, and were very helpful.

It was certainly nice to know someone cared about us and our comfort. Also, to know the U.S. Forestry Service has excellent help who showed concern for others' welfare. Thanks to them and the U.S. Forest Service. Sincerely, Mrs. Louise K. Butler.

Challis NF: 75 Years Old and Going Strong

The Challis NF is one of several Forests celebrating 75 years of service this year. Executive Order 840, signed by Theodore Roosevelt on July 1, 1908, created the Challis NF from parts of the Salmon and Sawtooth NF's—an area of 1,161,040 acres.

Today one finds the Forest has undergone several boundary changes. It has grown to 2,516,191 acres.

The first Forest Supervisor for the Challis was David Laing, who occupied the position until 1923. His annual salary was \$1,000.

During the early years there were six Ranger Districts. In 1972, in line with Forest Service policy to improve management and locate offices where they were more accessible to the public, the number of Districts was reduced to four.

Major uses include recreation, livestock grazing, minerals (gas and oil leases), land uses, and fish and wildlife habitat. Timber harvest supports several local sawmills.

The popular Middle Fork of the Salmon River is under

Challis NF jurisdiction. In 1968, 102 miles of the Middle Fork were given Wild River status under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Numbers of trips as well as passengers are limited to keep traffic in a reasonably stable and uncongested condition. In 1978 national attention was focused on the Middle Fork River when President Jimmy Carter and his family embarked on a float trip. They marveled at the pristine beauty of the area and President Carter described his trip as “the best three days I ever had.”

Five active major mining operations are underway on the Forest, with several other explorations planned. Cyprus Mining Corporation—Thompson Creek Molybdenum Project has great impact on the Forest. The one-square-mile open pit mine will be the largest project mine in Idaho, producing an anticipated 25,000 tons of molybdenum bearing ore per day. The mine and related mining areas are in excess of 2,460 acres on National Forest and BLM lands. The EIS was approved in 1980 and the Company expects to be in production by the end of 1983.

The 50th anniversary of the Civilian Conservation



CCC enrollees resting after hard work on the Deadwood Creek forest fire - July 29, 1937.

Corps program being celebrated this year has significance for the Challis NF. From 1933 through 1941, the CCC camps on the Forest included three regular camps of 200 men located at White Valley, Pass Creek, and Clayton, with spike camps of 25 men at Redfish Lake, Stanley Lake, Shake Creek, Loon Creek, Grouse Creek, Morgan Creek, Dickey, Beaver Creek, Bonanza, and May.

Enrollees were engaged in road construction and repair, fire suppression activities, lookout tower, guard and ranger station construction, plant pest control, and general forestry work. Buildings in the camp were painted and well maintained and the grounds were nicely landscaped, creating a pleasant and wholesome atmosphere.

At the White Valley Camp a vocational training building was constructed to house classes in auto mechanics and other vocational subjects. The building was made possible through the cooperation of camp officials and Custer County Commissioners. Labeled "School of the Woods," it was constructed of native logs cut by enrollees, and was considered one of the finest in the District.

Enrollees took pride in their work and many returned in later years to visit camp sites and areas where they lived as young men in the CCC program.

Helen Edge
Challis NF

Wildlife Rendezvous in Jackson, Wyoming

The 1983 joint annual meeting of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and the Western Division American Fisheries Society was held July 10-14 in Jackson, Wyoming. Theme of the meeting was "Wildlife Agencies' Reaction to Social and Environmental Impacts." In his welcoming remarks, Governor Ed Herschler said, "The theme chosen for this year's convention appears most appropriate, particularly to citizens of Wyoming, who have experienced some rather severe social and environmental impacts brought about by accelerated energy development in recent years."

As president of the Western Division American Fisheries Society, Don Duff, who is in charge of the Region's aquatic habitat management program, urged everyone to become involved in issues associated with such projects as small hydro-electric plants; oil, gas, and coal mining; increased timber harvest; livestock grazing; public land sales; and others. "These land uses, unless they are wisely planned and managed by all individuals and agencies involved, can cause declines or loss in riparian habitats, instream flows, water quality, resident and native fisheries, and anadromous fisheries," Duff said. He encouraged participants to be concerned with the cumulative effects of such activities.

Even the Cake is Slumping

John Niebergall, right, presented Ben Black a "chocolate slump cake" at the June Manti-LaSal Forest Management Team meeting. The slump cake was given in recognition of Ben's moving Sanpete District. John and the other District Rangers concluded that Ben needed something he could hold onto or sink back into. At the time of the presentation, access to the District was closed by washed out roads, mud slides, or snow. Depending on who you listen to, from 5 to 50 percent of the District has moved this year. An interdisciplinary environmental geology team, headed by Dennis Kelly, Forest Hydrologist, is currently working on a detailed inventory to determine the actual amount of movement and the associated damage and loss.

Lee Foster
Forest Planner
Manti-LaSal NF



Planning Article Published by Targhee Planner in National Magazine

An article by Robert G. Williams, Targhee Forest Planner, appears in the June issue of the Forest Planning magazine.

Williams' article, "Forest Plans—will they be a management tool?" states that a good analysis and a good selection of preferred alternatives do not guarantee a good plan.

Williams suggests that planners ask themselves the following questions:

- Will the plan be a useful management tool for people at the ranger district level for the next ten years?
- Will the project level planning and environmental analysis (EA) process be shortened as a result of decisions in the plan?
- Does the plan make most of the allocative decisions that have previously been made during the EA process?
- Is the plan an allocation and decision making document or a plan calling for more planning?

"If the answer to one or more of these questions is no, Williams says, it is unlikely that the plan will be useful, even though all analysis standards have been met."

Williams then takes samples from the Targhee's Draft Forest Plan to illustrate some specific management "tools," or management directions, of outputs to be produced and standards and guidelines to follow that makes the Plan useful for people at the project/district level.

Examples used by Williams in the article are confined to wildlife and timber because these issues are common to most forests.

Williams concludes his article with some practical suggestions related to plan implementation such as what EA's should consist of since allocations are set by the Plan.

Ann Matejko
Public Affairs Specialist
Targhee NF

Fun and Farewell

Maureen McBrien, Geologist for the Manti-LaSal NF, was recognized with a superior performance award and a Texas size doughnut as her stay on the Forest ended recently. The doughnut was presented by fellow runners who chased her in local races. Maureen, a long-distance runner, "carbohydrate-loads" on doughnuts before races, or at any time they are available. The performance award was for her accomplishments in coordinating the preparation of the Uinta-Southwestern Regional Coal Environmental Impact Statement.

Maureen, who made a big psychological adjustment in coming to Price, Utah, from Boston, Massachusetts, is making a lesser adjustment in going from Price to the Mount Hood NF in Region 6.

Lee Foster
Forest Planner
Manti-LaSal NF



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Microwave Communications Come to Manti-LaSal NF

The first Forest Service microwave communications system in the Intermountain Region now links together the Manti-LaSal Forest Supervisor's Office in Price, Utah, and the District Office in Ferron. According to Wayne Brown and Ross Butler, all other District Offices of the Manti-LaSal NF should be interconnected by the end of this summer.

With a little luck and assistance, the Forest could begin saving over \$10,000 dollars a year in intraforest long distance telephone costs through the use of the new system. It will provide data communications in support of the FLIPS program and also can provide control circuits for the Forest's new and improved land mobile radio networks.

The Manti-LaSal NF microwave system is a good example of sharing at the Forest level. Installation was accomplished primarily by Wayne Brown, Forest Electronics Technician, with help from many others, including Martin Van Lienden, Uinta NF, and Ken Brown, Wasatch NF.

District Offices at Moab and Monticello will be interconnected later this summer, using channels on a BLM microwave system. By the time the Manti-LaSal NF system is entirely operational, dozens of Forest Service and BLM personnel will have cooperated in the project.



Nerve center in the Supervisor's Office. The Forest could eventually save over \$10,000 a year with microwave communications.

The entire Manti-LaSal NF will be linked together by this type of microwave equipment by the end of summer.



Smokejumpers Plan Reunion for 1984

Forest Service Smokejumpers plan to have their first national reunion in Missoula, Montana, July 20-22, 1984. They will meet at the Smokejumper Center (also known as the Aerial Fire Depot) which was dedicated 30 years ago (1954) by President Eisenhower.

The Forest Service has been involved in smokejumping since the 1939 Aerial Experimental Project in California. The first actual fire jumps were made July 12, 1940, when Rufus Robinson and Earl Cooley jumped on the Martin Creek fire in the Nezperce NF in northern Idaho.

The U.S. Army used Forest Service smokejumper techniques the following year when they organized paratroop training at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Each summer the Forest Service has approximately 400 smokejumpers on duty. Since the first jump in 1940, Forest Service smokejumpers have made more than 160,000 jumps.

Barry Hicks, Grangeville, Idaho, chairman of the Smokejumper Reunion Committee, says there are now more than 10,000 smokejumper alumni throughout the country. "We are hopeful that most of these ex-smokejumpers and their families will attend the reunion next year in Missoula."

For more details about the reunion, ex-smokejumpers and their families should contact Charlie Rodgers, c/o Smokejumper Welfare Fund, 5765 Highway No. 10 West, Missoula, Montana 59802, telephone (406) 329-3131.

Hicks explained that Missoula has come to be known as "Home of the Forest Smokejumpers" and for that reason it seems appropriate to have the first smokejumper reunion there.

For additional information, Intermountain area alumni can contact Cliff Blake, Recreation Management, Regional Office, Ogden, Utah (801) 625-5170.

Cooperative Effort to Develop Flood Prediction Methods

Forest Service and Utah State University scientists have begun a cooperative effort to develop better methods to predict flood-landslide hazards along the Wasatch Front, research that should help prevent future property losses such as those experienced in Utah this spring.

Director Roger R. Bay said Station scientists will work with personnel of the University's Engineering and Natural Resources Schools. Research will be coordinated with the State of Utah's Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey, Engineers Office, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

Dr. Bay said, "It is imperative to begin studies immediately in the slide areas before soil drying and snowmelt proceed further."

Intermountain Station and University scientists will conduct studies at various locations along the Wasatch Front where landslides and floods have destroyed homes and property, displaced people, and have generally

disrupted the State's economy.

The researchers will determine groundwater conditions in the high watershed areas where landslides have occurred. They also will take soil samples from slide areas and from along the sides of affected streams to determine soil composition. In addition, flood source areas and hydrologic and geologic hazards will be mapped. Information will be coupled with other data from field surveys, maps, and aerial photos to provide a scientific basis for determining what starts landslides and the resulting floods.

Dr. Bay said in addition to providing methods to predict the flood-landslide hazards, the scientists will work to define the future probability of recurrences of the unusual snowpack and weather conditions present this spring.

Emergency funding for the first phases of the project is being provided by the national Forest Service Watershed Management Research Program.

Retirements

ROBERT N. PERKINS

Bob Perkins, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Bridger-Teton NF, retired July 1 with 33 years, 8 months of Federal service.

Bob spent the greatest part of his career with the National Park Service where he worked on nine different units. His Park Service career began after a two-year hitch in the Marine Corps. While with the Park Service he worked in Grand Teton, Everglades, Carlsbad Caverns, Yellowstone, Sequoia-Kings Canyon, Rocky Mountain, and Great Smokey Mountains National Parks and the Delaware Gap National Recreation Area, Minuteman National Historical Park, and the Park Service's Northeast Regional Office. Positions he held in the National Parks included Fire Control Assistant, Tour Leader, Park Ranger, District Ranger, Assistant Chief Ranger, Chief Ranger, as well as Superintendent and Environmental Impact Specialist. He received two Unit Award Certificates from the Secretary of Interior for his work as part of a mountain rescue team while in Grand Teton National Park.

Bob began working on the Bridger-Teton National Forest in 1973 as a Forestry Technician. He later became the Outdoor Recreation Planner and in that capacity he assisted with interpretive services, Travel Plans, the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, wilderness management planning, and various resource management plans and EIS's. He also served as the Forest History and Cultural Resource Coordinator.

Bob and wife Marilou plan to continue to reside in Jackson, Wyoming where they both have been very active in civic affairs.

Awards

Congratulations to the following people who have received length of service awards this year:

35 Years - JIM BUTLER, REID JACKSON.

30 Years - HAROLD EDWARDS, EVERETT WATERBURY, REED CHRISTENSEN.

25 Years - PAT SHEEHAN, JIM TRENHOLM, BOB COTTINGHAM, HARRY YOUNG, FRANK McELWAIN, KEITH BAWDON, BILL BROOKS, STEWART FINE, KENT TAYLOR.

BOISE NF

Cash Awards

JAMES W. CONIBEAR, Administrative Officer, SO - \$500—Because of Jim's initiative and perseverance, a study proposal has been completed to consolidate vehicle and equipment repair facilities for Forest Service, GSA, and BLM in Boise, Idaho.

RONALD K. TEW, Supervisory Hydrologist, SO - \$500—Ron developed a more accurate range analysis process that will cut allotment analysis and planning costs by approximately 50 percent.

GARY R. HILEMAN, Welding Worker, LPN - \$200—Gary constructed a new seed sanding machine with minimum guidance. He designed and built a model that was used in the covering of approximately 70,000 feet of seed this past sowing season.

The following people received cash awards for concerted, effective teamwork in the typing, duplicating, and associated clerical duties involved in the spruce budworm court case: RUTH MURPHY, Supvry. Clerk Typist - \$100; SHIRLEY CHAMBERS, Supvry. Mail and File Clerk - \$100; DEENA POLLARD, Clerk Typist - \$50; GWLADYS DEISS, Clerk Typist - \$50; SUE VOSBURG, Clerk Typist - \$50; JEFF BERGQUIST, Copier Dupl. Equip. Oper. - \$50; ELIZABETH ACUFF, Support Services Supvry. - \$100; DITA MATHEWS, Comm. Srvc. Prog. Enrollee - \$50; ALMA DIAMOND, Comm. Srvc. Prog. Enrollee - \$50.

TARGHEE NF

Cash Awards

DON BLACK - \$300—For substantially exceeding fuels management targets during FY 82.

KIM MARSHALL - \$300—For outstanding performance in analysis of Forest planned Douglas fir harvest level.

RICK MARTIN - \$375—Received a performance appraisal composite rating of 4.1, superior, exceeding acceptable standards.

BRUCE PADIAN - \$400—For exceeding expectations and demonstrating outstanding accomplishment in the administration of commercial thinning timber sales on Dubois RD.

HANS vonREKOWSKI - \$375—Received a performance appraisal composite rating of 4.0, superior, exceeding acceptable standards.

MIKE WHITFIELD - \$300—For exceptional accomplishment in the areas of wildlife management and backcountry management in FY 82.

B. LYNN BALLARD, RON BERTSCH, LOWELL BIRCH, ED DONOHUE - \$250 each—For special act of planning and implementing the charge fuelwood program on the Ashton RD.

SAWTOOTH NF

Cash Awards

MARK JOHNSON, Range Con, Ketchum RD - \$300—For demonstrating outstanding accomplishment during his assignment as Acting District Ranger from September 1982 to May 1983.

TED HENDRIX, Warehouseman, SNRA - Stanley Zone - \$250—For sustained superior performance during the last eight years as warehouseman and general fix-it man for the Stanley Zone and for his willingness to always lend a helping hand.

CHUCK EBERSOLE, Information Services, SNRA - Stanley Zone - \$250—For superior performance in promoting the volunteer program and for extra effort in recruiting highly qualified volunteers.

CHARLES REYNOLDS, Maintenance Worker, SNRA - Stanley Zone - \$250—For sustained superior performance during the last 10 years as plumber, electrician, and general facility systems trouble shooter on the Stanley Zone and for his willingness to respond to emergency situations at all hours.

Personnel

ASHLEY NF

Resignations

SANDRA LESCHIN, Engineering Draftsman, SO Engineering

Promotions

RULEN WOOLLEY, Forestry Aid, Duchesne RD
DOLORES MANNING, Voucher Examiner, SO B&F

Transfer In

LORRIE CANTO, from Personnel Asst., Uinta NF to Personnel Clerk, SO Personnel
KELLI MOLLISON, from Personnel Clerk, Wasatch NF to Business Management Assistant, Duchesne RD

Conversions

TOM CONTRERAS converted from Student Trainee to Forester, Vernal RD
DOLORES MANNING converted from Worker Trainee Office Assistant to Career Office Assistant

BOISE NF

New Employees

MICHAEL MITCHELL, Forestry Technician, SO A&FM
GLEN PICKETT, Lead Forestry Technician, Mountain Home RD

Transfer In

GLENN SZARZYNSKI, Forester, from Tongass-Stikine, to Idaho City RD
RUBY ALEXANDER, Forestry Technician, from Lincoln NF, to Emmett RD

Transfer Out

JANIS BURNS-BUYARSKI, Forester, from Idaho City RD to Tongass-Stikine, Alaska
DAVID BONVILLE, Personnel Clerk, from Idaho City RD to OPM - Seattle, Washington
RONALD BAKER, Engineering Equip Operator, from Idaho City RD, to Payette NF

Promotion

LINDA MCGINTY, Clerk (Typing), SO Engineering
ALAN QUAN, Forester, Mountain Home RD
RAY HOUSE, Maintenance Worker, LPN
MARTIN SAXTON, Forestry Technician, Boise RD

Resignation

WILLIAM LEVERNIER, Economist, SO LMP

MANTI-LASAL NF

Transfer Out

DONALD J. MCGUIRE, Civil Engineer, SO, to Custer NF, East Zone Engineering, as Supervisory Civil Engineer
CRAIG C. FALKUM, Highway Engineer, SO, to USDI, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Resignation

JEFFREY C. GAVIN, Geologist, SO Minerals

Reassignment

ALAN J. GALLEGOS, Geologist, from Ferron RD to Supervisor's Office

SAWTOOTH NF

Promotion-Transfer

JOHN E. PHIPPS, Forester (Adm.), from Willamette NF to Ketchum RD

Promotion

GERI J. TORRES, Payroll Clerk, SNRA
ALICE BRADFORD, Secretary, SO

Transfer

CRISERITA SANDOVAL, Secretary, to Regional Pers. Officer, RO
CAROL SHOBE, Clerk Typist, Boise Interagency Fire Center

TARGHEE NF

Promotion

LESTER HENMAN, Forestry Tech, Dubois RD
DUSTY HINCKS, Range Tech, Palisades RD
MARY MAJ, Wildlife Biologist, Dubois RD
CHARLES SORENSON, Administrative Officer, SO
JACK GOLLAHER, FMO, SO
JACK S. HADDOX, JR., Range Con, from Payette NF to Range Con, Teton Basin RD
EARL LAORANGE, Public Affairs Spec., to Challis NF
JOYCE RICHEY, Personnel Asst, to BMA, Logan RD, Wasatch NF

Reassignments

JEANNE MACHEN, Clerk Typist, Dubois RD, to Clerk Typist, Manpower Services, SO
BRENT MACE, Range Con, to Cedar City RD, Dixie NF
GEORGE PERKINS, Range Con, to Weiser RD, Payette NF

Conversion

DAVID BEAM, Forestry Tech, Palisades RD

Resignations

MARSHA B. PHILLIPS, Forest Supervisor's Secretary

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